

## Walters optimistic over hostages

DAMASCUS (R) — The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, said Friday he was optimistic about the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon although he had no new grounds for hope. "I am always an optimist by nature, I do not know whether I can substantiate my optimism with any new factors, but after all they have released three of four in the past and one has to be an optimist," he told a news conference. Walters said he would raise the hostage issue during talks with Syrian leaders but said this visit to Damascus was not specifically to discuss the matter. He would not speculate whether a Syrian military move into Beirut's southern suburbs would help or hinder efforts for their release. He also declined to say whether the United States supported Syrian intervention in the suburbs but repeated Washington's call for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. Walters, who has held talks in Jordan, Egypt and Israel, said he would also visit Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries to discuss the Iran-Iraq war and other Middle East issues.

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dr. j. h. l. s.

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## Italian deputies urge EC peace effort

ROME (R) — The lower house of the Italian parliament called on the European Community (EC) Thursday to abandon rhetoric and launch a Middle East peace initiative. After a two-day debate, the Chamber of Deputies overwhelmingly approved a resolution stressing the "rights of all people in the region to secure and guarantee liberty." It said the role of the EC was not only to make "wise pronouncements about projects for peace but also to assume responsibility and precise initiatives." Members called on the Italian government to recognize unequivocally the right of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to take part in international talks aimed at ending the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Shultz: Peace chances not promising

BONN (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Friday the prospects for peace in the Middle East were not promising but the willingness of leaders in the region to listen to his proposals gave some hope. "The prospects don't look particularly promising," Shultz said from Washington in a satellite television news conference. "Nevertheless, we do have an approach that has at least attracted everybody's attention and nobody wants to say 'no' to it," Shultz said. "Even if the probabilities of a breakthrough are small we think it's important to keep working at it."

Herzog cuts sentences of Jewish terrorists

TEL AVIV (R) — Three Jewish terrorists convicted of murdering Palestinians in the occupied West Bank had their jail sentences cut to 15 years by Israeli President Chaim Herzog, Israel Radio reported Friday. West Bank settlers Uzi Sharab, Shaul Nir and Menachem Livni were sentenced to life in jail for a 1984 attack on the Hebron Islamic College, where four Palestinians died and more than 30 were wounded. A year ago, Herzog commuted their life sentences to 24 years, making them eligible for a further reduction for good behaviour. The radio said this time Herzog was commuting the sentences of 80 prisoners, including 26 serving life-terms.

Carbomb suspect ordered held

NICOSIA (R) — A Lebanese arrested after a bungled car bomb attempt on the Israeli embassy in Nicosia was remanded in custody for a further eight days by a Cyprus court Friday. A police prosecutor said evidence suggested Omar Ahmad Hawillo, 28, was linked to the bombing which killed two Cypriots and the Lebanese driver of the car and injured 19 people. But he said police needed more time to question about 70 people, including foreigners, who might also be involved.

State of emergency lifted in Dakar

DAKAR (R) — A state of emergency in force in the Senegalese capital Dakar since street riots erupted Feb. 29 was lifted under a presidential decree issued Friday. President Abdou Diouf had promised earlier in the week to end the emergency which banned open-air political gatherings and gave police wide powers of arrest. An overnight curfew, imposed on the capital since youths went on the rampage following presidential and legislative elections Feb. 28, was lifted last month.

Senate defeats INF amendments

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Friday overwhelmingly rejected an attempt by conservative critics of the U.S.-Soviet missile treaty to link the pact to alleged Soviet cheating on five other arms-control agreements. In a series of five votes, the Senate killed, piece by piece, the amendment proposed by Republican Senator Steve Symms. Symms' amendment noted that President Ronald Reagan had told Congress the Soviets were violating the SALT I and SALT II treaties.

## Over 17,000 Palestinians under detention; Israel rejects U.S. request for joint probe

# Israeli army imposes massive presence to foil Jerusalem protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A massive Israeli military presence and strict blockade on access to Muslim worshipers to holy shrines in Jerusalem appeared to have averted Palestinian protests in the Holy City Friday.

Soldiers at checkpoints turned back Palestinians attempting to enter Jerusalem from the occupied West Bank in stricter security controls than normal. Arab

sources quoted by Reuters said. "I was turned back four times," said a Ramallah resident who works in Jerusalem. He said he finally succeeded in entering

(Continued on page 3)

## Syrians ready to enter south Beirut after Damascus-Tehran agreement

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syrian troops and tanks were on standby Friday while Iran and Syria discussed how to deploy them in Beirut's southern suburbs to end bitter fighting between rival Shi'ite militias.

The Iranian-Syrian negotiations have moved to discussing the details of the deployment and setting the zero hour for the entry, a pro-Syrian political source told Reuters.

Syria and Iran, although allies, are split on how to end two weeks

of bloody battles for control of the suburbs between their local followers, the Iranian-backed Hizbullah (Party of God) and the pro-Syrian Amal militia.

Sources close to both sides said the dispute centred on whether the Syrians would disarm the Hizbullah militants, who have won control of 80 per cent of the suburbs.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said the Syrian soldiers were standing ready by their tanks, setting up new checkpoints and imposing increased security on the airport road and other entrances to the suburbs.

Sources reported sporadic exchanges as the fighting entered its third week.

Syrian-held areas came under artillery fire on Thursday during battles between Hizbullah and Amal which killed five people and wounded 15, raising the casualty toll to 260 killed and 1,100 wounded.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei sent a message to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Friday.

The official Syrian news agency (SANA) said deputy Iranian Foreign Minister Ali-Mohammad Besharati passed on the message during a meeting with Assad. It

(Continued on page 3)

## Palestinians clash at Bourj Al Barajneh

BEIRUT (R) — Fierce battles erupted between fighters loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Syrian-backed Palestinians at a Beirut refugee camp Friday after a week-long lull in their bitter feud, Palestinian sources said.

Rival fighters were trading heavy mortar and rocket fire in the narrow alleyways of Bourj Al Barajneh camp, they said. The thump of explosions echoed across Beirut.

There were no immediate casualty reports and it was not known what triggered the fighting in the battered camp between Arafat loyalists and the Syrian-backed Abu Musa faction.

The shooting shattered a May 14 ceasefire between the rival groups in Bourj Al Barajneh, which is near Beirut's southern suburbs, now ringed by Syrian troops preparing to move in after inter-Shi'ite battles.

Rival loyalists seized six positions held by Abu Musa fighters

in the sprawling camp during fierce street battles last week in which at least 26 Palestinians were wounded.

Syrian troops on the airport highway, which runs alongside both Bourj Al Barajneh and the southern suburbs, ran to their sandbagged positions and ordered passing cars away, witnesses said.

The Palestinian conflict coincided with battles between militiamen of the pro-Syrian Shi'ite Amal and the Iranian-backed Hizbullah (Party of God) for control of the suburbs.

An estimated 7,000 Syrian troops, backed by armoured cars and tanks, took up positions around the suburbs last weekend and are awaiting orders to move in to quell the militia violence.

Security sources say the Syrian move into the suburbs will enable Damascus to control access to refugee camps in southern Beirut, which were badly damaged during a siege imposed by Amal in 1985.

(Continued on page 3)

## Kuwaiti saboteurs described as pious Muslims but misled

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Two Kuwaiti men killed in the explosion of their bomb-laden car in Kuwait were pious Muslims who were duped by criminals, the newspaper Al Qabas said Friday.

The daily said combating terrorism should not only mean arresting perpetrators but also "immunising citizens against easily prey to protagonists of crime and deepening sentiments of patriotism with the youth."

The paper warned more terrorism should be expected.

The blast Wednesday in downtown Kuwait was the third in less than a month and the latest in a spate that started with the December 1988 car-bombing of the U.S. and French embassies and included an attempt in 1985 on the life of the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

"We have to shoulder our historic responsibility... because confining our attitude to condemnation of crimes and counting casualties will be without avail if we want our country to live in peace and security," Al Qabas said.

The two young Kuwaitis, who have been identified as Nasser Mohammad Al Hassan Ahmad, 22, and Walid Abdul Nabi Mohammad Musa Al Musa, 23, were killed when their Mazda-929s they were travelling in exploded close to the Kuwait Airways head office.

Al Qabas quoted a sister of Ahmad as saying that her family was "surprised" to learn about the incident. She described her brother as "a fervent Muslim who strictly performs his religious obligations and leads a normal life. We did not discern anything abnormal in his day-to-day behaviour."

Al Qabas said Musa was studying at Kuwait University, majoring in geography, and recently married, with no children.

The paper quoted his brother, Adnan, as saying that he did not know about the incident until the following afternoon while reading the newspapers.

Adnan also described his brother as "a very committed Muslim."

The Afghan Mujahideen fighters are positioning themselves for the kill against Jalalabad and Kandahar, the two cities which could hold the key to the capital Kabul and victory over the Soviet-backed government there.

Latest reports reaching Pakistan Friday said Mujahideen forces had blockaded Jalalabad, which controls the eastern corridor into Kabul from Pakistan, and government and some remaining Soviet troops were locked in.

A spokesman for the seven-party Islamic alliance, headquartered in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar, said all roads from the city were blocked by the Mujahideen.

An unconfirmed report by Pakistan news agency PPI, quoting unknown Mujahideen

## U.N. panel arrives in Amman

AMMAN (I.T.) — A United Nations human rights team arrived in Amman Friday on the first stage of a three-leg Middle East tour to take testimony on Israeli practices in the occupied territories, the Jordan News Agency, Petra said.

The three-member committee will stay in Amman until May 24 before going on to Damascus and Cairo to gather further evidence, a U.N. spokesman said in Geneva.

The panel is the United Nations' main source of information on the human rights situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza and reports each year to the U.N. General Assembly.

Israel has refused to cooperate with the committee or grant it access to the occupied territories, according to a U.N. statement.

The committee, which held a two-day meeting in Geneva before leaving on its fact-finding mission, is chaired by Daya Perera, Sri Lanka's ambassador to the United Nations in New York.

"The issues discussed included Israeli policy regarding the treatment of Palestinian demonstrators, judicial practices as they applied to the uprising, public health, working conditions, press freedom and economic policy," the U.N. said.

The two other members of the committee are Dragan Jovanovic, a Yugoslav professor of law, and Aloune Sene, Senegalese ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva.

The hope to interview Palestinians expelled by Israel in recent months from the occupied territories — an act forbidden by the 1949 Geneva Convention.

Jordan, Egypt, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Arab League have given information to the committee.

The U.N. team was received upon its arrival here by representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Occupied Territories and the deputy head of the U.N. office in Amman.



HM King Hussein

## Back to work today after 'Eid; King receives greetings

AMMAN (I.T.) — All government departments and organisations return to work Saturday after a five-day holiday on the occasion of 'Eid Al Fitr which marked the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan.

On the occasion, His Majesty received cables of congratulations and wishes for continued good health and happiness.

The cables were received from Mauritanian President Maouya Ould Sidi Ahmad Taya and Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz, Petra said.

this week, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. The King also exchanged views with the Arab leaders on the current Arab situation, Petra said.

The King Friday received more cables of congratulations and wishes for continued good health and happiness.

The King exchanged 'Eid Al Fitr greetings with the leaders of Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Syria over the phone in the course of

## Morocco to attend Arab summit

RABAT (R) — Morocco will attend a special Arab summit due to open in Algiers June 7, an official source said Friday.

The decision follows agreement by Algeria and Morocco last Monday to restore diplomatic relations after a 12-year rift.

The source said it was not yet known whether King Hassan himself would head the Moroccan delegation to the summit which will concentrate on rallying Arab support for the Palestinian uprising.

The Moroccan monarch met Algerian President Chadli Benjedid twice on their frontier, in February 1983 and in May last year, before relations were finally restored, but it would be the king's first visit to Algeria since Rabat severed ties in 1976.

The source said the appointment of ambassadors was imminent and was likely to be followed shortly by bilateral talks to settle questions like the reopening of the frontier.

Road and rail traffic between Algeria and Morocco has been suspended since the two countries fell out over the Western Sahara, where Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas have been fighting Morocco for control of the former Spanish colony.

U.N. report highlights Sahara deadlock, page 5

## Al Akhbar welcomes Jordan's call for pan-Arab force

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein's call for the formation of a pan-Arab rapid deployment force to defend Arab countries has been welcomed by the Cairo daily Al Akhbar, which described the proposal as a courageous invitation to the Arabs that should be seriously considered.

The paper said Friday that the formation of the Arab force

would mean taking the first practical and concrete step for the implementation of the Joint Arab Defence Pact as included in the Arab League Charter. The paper said the King's call should be implemented as soon as possible, specifically in view of the dangers and the challenges to which the Arab World is exposed and in view of Iran's continued threats in the Gulf region.

## French parties haggle to avert Socialist victory

PARIS (R) — French conservatives met with centrists Friday for last minute bargaining to seal an uneasy alliance which they hope can prevent a leftist victory in next month's general election.

The snap election, called last Saturday, has given the parties little time to smooth over internal differences and complete the list of candidates they will present to voters in each of France's 577 constituencies during the first round of voting June 5.

In France's complex two-round system, deals have to be made in advance to avoid rivals splitting the ticket and handing the election to the opposition. Candidate lists are due to close in 24 hours.

Several opinion polls published this week indicate the new Socialist government of Prime Minister Michel Rocard would win more than 40 per cent of the national vote in the first round, the best score in the Socialists' 17-year history.

Socialist President Francois Mitterrand called the election after winning a historic second term May 8, hoping his personal popularity would carry the Socialists back to power after two years in opposition.

Jacques Toubon, general secretary of the Gaullist RPR (Rally for the Republic), said the newly-formed centre-right URC alliance had agreed to put up

The RPR, fearing a backlash from its centrist partners in the URC alliance, has refused the National Front's calls for a common right-wing campaign plan on the national scale.

## U.S. sees no surprises at Moscow summit

MOSCOW (Agencies) — A senior American official said Friday to expect progress and no surprises on most problems at issue between the United States and the Soviet Union at the coming Moscow summit.

The official said that although signing of a strategic arms reduction (START) treaty during the four-day meeting was now effectively excluded, the summit would consolidate a framework of dialogue, between the superpowers.

The summit begins May 29 when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev welcomes U.S. President Ronald Reagan at Moscow's VIP Vnukovo-2 airport just under six months after they met in Washington to sign an intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty.

The U.S. official, who declined to be identified, told Reuters the key topics for discussion at the meeting would be arms control, human rights and regional issues.

"I have no doubt we will push ahead in most areas, if not all," he added.

The official, who has been closely involved in past summits

between Gorbachev and Reagan, said the two powers "want to move rapidly but not precipitously... we do not feel we are negotiating under a deadline."

A string of recent meetings between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, as well as other diplomatic contacts, "have given us a good idea of what is possible," he added.

"The general content of our expectations is very much similar. There is going to be an unexpected disappointment on either side, and there are no unrealistic expectations about how far we can go."

No Mideast progress

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# Israeli crackdown on Palestinian universities in occupied territories

This is the second part of a six part series in which the exercise of academic freedoms in Palestinian universities of the occupied Arab territories are discussed. This study was presented to the UNESCO at its hundred and twenty-seventh session by Father Edouard Bone.

## Academic freedom

The main question dealt with by the Rapporteur concerns the exercise of academic freedom(s) in the universities of the West Bank and Gaza. The principle of academic freedom is neither codified in international law nor defined in the major reference documents on human rights. However, the various freedoms proclaimed by universally recognised codes and declarations include concrete examples of academic freedom with explicit reference to:

Access to education, the right to education, freedom of speech and assembly, freedom of cultural expression, non-discrimination, the right to privacy, freedom of movement, protection against arbitrary detention and all forms of inhuman or degrading treatment, etc.

As a working hypothesis, the definition given by Roberts, Joergensen and Newman is adopted here. Academic freedom is usually understood as being exercised in those educational, research and administrative functions which a higher educational establishment may discharge without let or hindrance or pressure of any kind, in particular the freedom to teach, to learn, to organise curricula, to acquire books and periodicals, to recruit staff, to leave or enter the campus and to improve or develop facilities.

It may be assumed in advance that this freedom may occasionally be jeopardised by a power outside the university, such as the state itself, and *a fortiori* by a foreign administration or a state of belligerency. This, indeed, has been the experience, or at least the alleged experience, of the Palestinian universities for many years now. In the circumstances created by the military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. What, in fact, is the situation?

As regards the Palestinian universities in the territories occupied by Israel, the question of academic freedom does not appear to affect — explicitly at least — the right of these universities to exist. The government of Israel has at least allowed them to develop from pre-existing institutions, or to be created outright. It even occasionally — and, it is argued, improperly — claims their paternity. On November 20, 1983 the Israeli Ministry for Foreign Affairs explicitly stated that academic activity proceeded without any interference whatsoever from the Israeli administration. More recently (July 1986), the Ministry of Defence published an eighteen-year survey written by the coordinator of government operations in the territories stating that since 1967 Israel's continuing policy as regards academic freedom had been to maintain and promote total freedom in all the educational institutions in the regions concerned. Intense efforts had

been made to give teachers and students the maximum amount of independence in the pursuit of legitimate academic aims. There was no intervention by the Israeli administration in this domain. It was only when security was jeopardised, inside or outside the campus, that the authorities then assumed the responsibilities devolving on them under international law, for the purpose of restoring public order, first and foremost for the safety and welfare of the local population.

The same official Ministry of Defence document specifies the Israeli government's explicit views on freedom of assembly and freedom of the press. Military Order No. 101 provides that a special permit is required for any marches, meetings, the manufacture of flags and emblems and publications of political literature; authorisation may be refused if it is clear that the assembly or demonstration will lead to a movement or propaganda liable to pose a threat to public order. Press censorship is applied only to passages manifestly inciting to hatred and disorder.

Thus strictly speaking the universities do have the right to exist: This right is formally recognised in the quota of the licences granted to each of them, renewable annually, which specify in each case the departments or specialisations authorised and the number of student places available. It is, rather, the functioning of the institutions which at issue, and it is here that some people consider that academic freedom is at risk. One side advances the requirements of security to justify certain restrictive measures, checks, censorship, closures, raids and searches, arrests and detention; while on the other side the requirements of training and education, research, and the promotion of culture and national identity cause a revolt against measures which are deemed unjustified, illegal and arbitrary, if not provocative or systematically malicious. The crux of the matter lies, therefore, in the way people behave and act, and in the practical provisions in force; to this should be added the question of interpretation, for there can be different ways of reacting to a situation or justifying a particular measure, and the subjective or contingent nature of a decision should not be underestimated.

The fact remains that there are very many points of friction and that recurrent serious and sometimes dramatic clashes have been recorded, which impede the smooth functioning of the universities and amply raise the question of the basic exercise of academic freedom.

Following is a non-exhaustive list of such points of friction which might include:

As regards the right to education: "Official" closures; checkpoints and road blocks or "de facto" closures; denial of university education to detainees; house arrest.

Furthermore, whatever the possible justification or provocative character of any particular intervention by the Israeli forces,

1987 for one week; on January 11 for another week; on January 20 for four days; on February 6, "preventively" for one day; on February 10 for one month; and on March 27 for two weeks. Hebron University was closed twice for a total of four weeks. Hebron Polytechnic was closed on March 17, 1987, without any violent incidents being reported. There were closures at Gaza, Abu-Dis and El Bireh, disrupting the academic year, in some cases seriously.

As regards the right to cultural identity: Falsification of textbooks, syllabuses, etc.; obstacles to cultural expression.

As regards non-discrimination: The question of taxes and customs duties on educational, scientific and cultural material; refusal of building permits; refusal of work permits.

As regards the right to privacy: Foreseeable entry; Non-protection against arbitrary detention and degrading or inhuman treatment.

As regards freedom of movement: House arrest.

## Right to education — freedom of expression and research

### Official closure of universities

Numerous official closures of universities have been decided on by the Israeli authorities in recent years. Various responsible publications by the competent university authorities have kept a precise record of these closures, setting out a list of them and providing information on the exact circumstances. A recent document gives the following data for the period 1979-1986:

Universities	Number of closures	Number of days lost
Birzeit	13	550
Al Najah	9	527
Bethlehem	8	180
Gaza	8	311
Hebron	6	81
Hebron Polytechnic	3	138

On June 17, 1985 Israeli authorities pledged to reduce collective punitive measures against universities to an absolute minimum, usually invoked in the interest of "security". Unfortunately in the last few months there has been a fresh wave of official closures affecting all the Palestinian universities, and in this respect the year 1987 will have been the most troubled one in their history. During our visit in July 1987, we heard reports of several particularly prejudicial and serious cases of closure during the current academic year. In 1986-1987 alone, Birzeit was closed four times; for a whole month from December 8, 1986 to January 3, 1987, on its former campus; from February 18 to 21, 1987; from March 27 to 30, 1987 and, the longest closure, from April 13 to August 13, 1987 — i.e. a total of some 150 days. Bethlehem was closed on three occasions for a total period of some three weeks. Al Najah was closed six times: On December 8, 1986 for one week; on January 2,

on the part of the occupying power. They told me how much better it would be for the army to keep out of sight and to maintain a discreet low-profile policy in the matter of surveillance and non-interference. The presence of the military usually acts as a detonator in the event of an otherwise perfectly peaceful demonstration or celebration. I had occasion to attend two of these student celebrations, at Hebron and Al Najah. One was the celebration of a day of Palestinian literature, and in the other, various groups (Islamic, nationalist...) had gathered to prepare for elections to the students' council. I saw for myself how, in the absence of any obvious or provocative military presence, the students' gatherings proceeded entirely peacefully, with the university authorities keeping a discreet but attentive watch over events.

Furthermore, whatever the possible justification or provocative character of any particular intervention by the Israeli forces,

one cannot fail to speculate on whether specific measures to close a university are in proportion to the security objective. The recent closure of Birzeit University (on April 13, 1987) is perhaps a particularly telling example. The events have been fully documented in a substantiated report published a few days after the grievous confrontations which for the second time this academic year took their toll in human lives. We do not presume to contest the justification for closing the university in order to allow the situation to calm down immediately after the violent incidents of April 13. But one may question the significance of an justification for closing the university for a long period of four months, right up to the middle of the summer holidays. In what way does such a prolonged closure contribute to security and a return to calm? Paralysing the university's entire administrative apparatus, throwing academic staff into unemployment by prohibiting entry into the university campus and access to libraries, laboratories and seminars, halting peaceful research activities at a time when there would in any case be very few students on the campus and no teaching activities — it may well be asked whether all this has anything to do with concern for security. Once the April events were over, closing the university looked like a collective sanction rather than a measure to restore calm, far from enabling those concerned to concentrate once more, undisturbed, on their academic pursuits, or indeed exacerbating the feeling of deep frustration, and nurtured resentment that is liable to lead to fresh confrontations; at the very least, it impeded even further, without any apparent gain, the functioning of the university.

Generally speaking, irrespective of the events of December 1986 and April 1987 on the Birzeit campus, there can be no doubt that the repeated closures of universities have an extremely harmful effect on the life of these establishments. Apart from the fact that they maintain a grievous climate of instability and a constant state of irritation, they seriously compromise academic life, students' concentration on their studies, the worthwhileness of courses and the quality of research. They hold up or disorganise courses to the detriment of all of these aims.

The university authorities are led to make up for these closures by providing extracurricular tuition (during holiday periods, or early in the morning and late at night, at times when moving about is dangerous because of possible clashes with settlers or armed patrols). The extra cost of this teaching is estimated in some universities at half a million dollars per month of closure. With determination and courage, university authorities and students alike accept the sacrifices entailed by these measures to safeguard and protect academic life at all costs, but not without having to suffer the extremely hard consequences of doing so. Al Najah

University, for example, will not complete its academic year until the end of September 1987. It is obvious, in the circumstances, that summer courses have to be cancelled or considerably reduced, all available time being set aside mainly to make up for the weeks or months of closure during the regular academic year. I myself observed this factual situation in several places, for instance at Bethlehem, at the graduation ceremony on July 18, 1987.

### Checkpoints and road-blocks

University rectors and presidents consider that the right to education and academic freedom are also threatened by the many road-blocks put up at the entrances to campuses. They suggested in conversation with me that this is part of a subtle systematic policy of obstructing academic life. Birzeit University alone suffered the obstruction of road-blocks on 35 occasions during the 1985-1986 year. I have before me a very specific document giving a list of these road-blocks from October 15, 1986 to April 15, 1987 at two establishments. It reports checkpoints set up at the entrances to the university, which in practice debarred students from entering (either because they were formally prohibited from doing so, or because they were afraid of having their identity papers confiscated, or because they gave up after being turned away on two or three successive days):

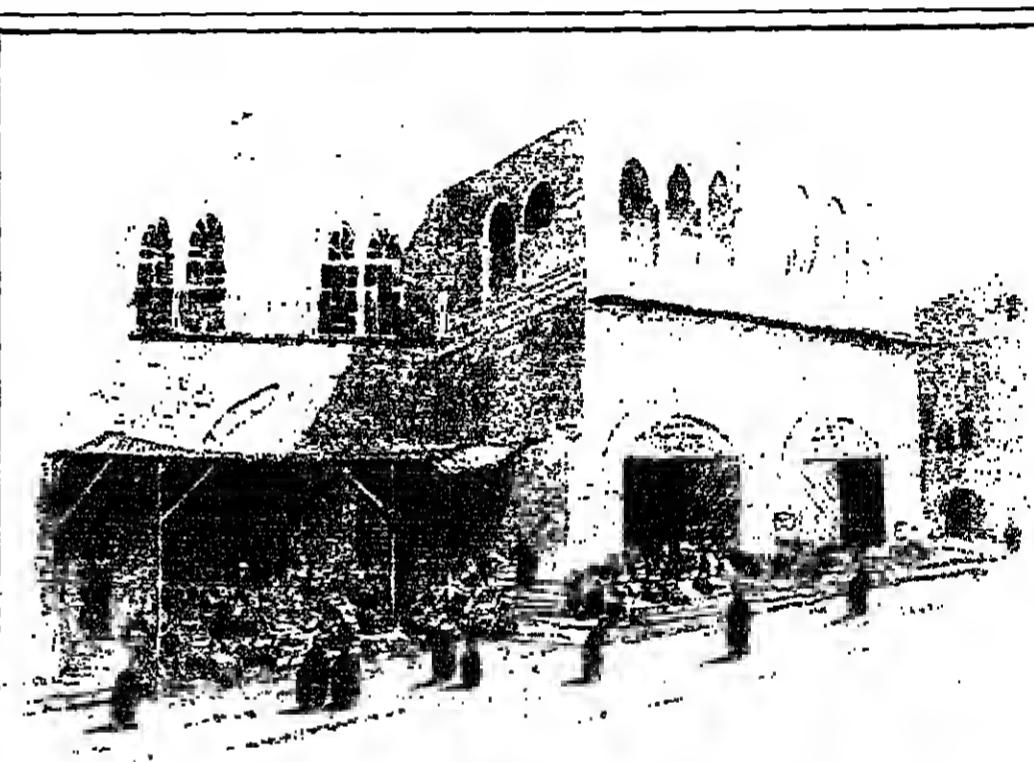
October 15, at Birzeit  
October 18, at Birzeit  
October 30, at Birzeit  
November 1, at Al Najah  
November 3, at Abu Dis and Birzeit  
November 5, at Birzeit  
November 10, at Al Najah

It has sometimes been seen as constituting an unwarranted modification of Jordanian or

Egyptian legislation, contrary to the Geneva Convention IV relating to the responsibilities of an occupying power. On this particular point, it should perhaps be made clear that there is not strictly applicable Jordanian or Egyptian law concerning the functioning of universities in occupied territories. There are no private universities in these countries, and the various laws and regulations on universities are all specific to the particular university for which they were passed.

That being said, it should be noted that authorised Israeli sources have acknowledged that order No. 854 is "stupid and regrettable." This admission made to the Rapporteur tallies, moreover, with the focal and international protest raised when the order was first promulgated (notably by a group of professors from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem) which led to the suspension of the order on October 10, 1982, so that in fact it has never been applied.

Along the same lines, work permits were made compulsory for visiting professors and lecturers in the West Bank ("visitors" include even Jordanian nationals, resident on the West Bank but physically absent from the territories during the 1967 events). At the time, the granting of such a permit was contingent on an "undertaking of loyalty" whereby the applicants undertook to refrain from giving any assistance to the PLO or "any other terrorist organisation." This requirement, considered to be unjustly political, raised a storm of protest and gave rise to a number of deportations or refusals to renew work permits (for instance those of some 28 university teachers at Al Najah).



KAPLANIAN'S EXHIBITION: On May 22, 1988, the Goethe Institute will hold an art exhibition by George S. Kaplanian, which will be officially opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan. There will be 45 watercolours

and China ink and charcoal paintings, depicting various sceneries of Jordan and Syria, sceneries that the artist has sketched and noted down their details throughout his trips, particularly those he undertakes with the Friends of Archaeology.

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
JORDAN TELEVISION		TODAY'S EVENTS		QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT		EMERGENCIES	
BBC WORLD SERVICE		EXHIBITIONS		OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)		GENERAL	
PROGRAMME ONE		VIDEO		ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)		NIGHT DUTY	
PROGRAMME TWO		CULTURAL CENTRES		SERVICE CLUBS		AMMAN: Dr. Ali Asaad, Dr. A. Awad, Dr. Jamal Abu Baker, Dr. I. Issam Abu Rezq, Dr. Firdous Farouq, Dr. Al Asmaa, Dr. Nauvali, Dr. Al Sami, Dr. Yacoub, Dr. Simonsan	
RADIO JORDAN		MUSEUMS		CHURCHES		TAXIS: Tal Al Asaad, Venise taxi, Asfour taxi, Tariq taxi, Holiday taxi, Saidi taxi, Middle East taxi	
VOICE OF AMERICA		CHILDREN'S HERITAGE AND SCIENCE MUSEUM		STUDYING		IRRID: Dr. A. Saboun, Dr. A. Sharra's pharmacy	
MW 1260 & SW 7210, 4565, 11740, 1925 and 1521 Hz		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		Sundays		ZARQA: Dr. A. Zakeel, Khalifeh pharmacy	
07:00 Morning Show		Children's Heritage and Science Museum: Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.		Local soft/beer rates in Jds		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
07:30 Newsdesk		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		Belgian Franc 100 Jds ..... 96.5 99.8		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
08:00 Morning Show		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		Dutch guilder ..... 179.9 181.6		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
08:30 News Summary		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		French Franc ..... 59.5 61.6		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
09:05 Morning Show Contd.		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		Japanese yen (100) ..... 77.1 78.2		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
10:00 News		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		Swedish crown ..... 57.8 58.8		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
10:30 News		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		Swiss franc ..... 242 251.2		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
11:00 News		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		U.K. Sterling pound ..... 64.7 65.4		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
11:30 News		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		U.S. dollar ..... 139.7 151.3		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
12:00 News		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		W. German mark ..... 20.4 20.9		Jordan Television, Radio Jordan, Ministry of Tourism, Hotel complaints, Amman down town fire brigade, First aid, Blood Bank, Civil Defence rescue, Fire headquarters, Police rescue, Police headquarters, Traffic police, Electric Power Co., Municipal water complaints, Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	
12:30 News		Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.		Fair (Sunrise) Dhuhr		TAXIS: Tal Al Asaad, Venise taxi, Asfour taxi, Tariq taxi, Holiday taxi, Saidi taxi, Middle East taxi	
13:00							

## Sub-committees plan expatriates conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat has formed sub committees to prepare for the July 11-14 Jordanian Expatriates Conference.

The minister himself is the chairman of a committee prepar-

ing for the conference, the fourth of its kind, to be held in the Kingdom this summer.

The 11 sub-committees will pave the way for the conference and take charge of financial transfers and organisational affairs.

## Amman to host Arab chemists conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — The eighth Arab Chemists Federation Conference will be held in Amman between June 13 and 17 according to an announcement by the Jordanian Chemists Association.

The announcement said that a preparatory committee has in-

vited all Jordanian and Arab chemists to take part in the conference which will review research papers dealing with the role of chemistry in promoting Arab development projects and teaching chemistry at school and university levels.

## Regional symposium on population opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A regional symposium on population and the development of human resources will be opened here Saturday at the University of Jordan by the University President Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, according to a report in the local Arabic news-

paper. The three-day symposium has been organised by the university in cooperation with Ministry of Labour and Social Development and the International Labour

Organisation (ILO).

Among the topics to be discussed during the seminar are population and human resources in Jordan, the impact of foreign labourers on Jordan's labour market and unemployment in Jordan.

Taking part in the seminar are

specialists from Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the ILO and the Economic and Social Committee for Western Asia (ESCWA).

### NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**TRANSPORT TALKS:** The cabinet has formed Jordan's delegation to the executive bureau meeting of the Arab Transport Ministers Council due to open in Tunis on June 21. Minister of Transport Khaled Al Haj Hassan will lead the delegation to the six-day meeting, according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily.

**LONDON MAYOR:** The Lord Mayor of London will arrive in Amman on May 24 on a visit at the invitation by the Greater Amman Municipality. Al Dustour Arabic daily said that the London mayor will spend several days in Amman attending the opening of the bridges at the Sports City interchange and will hold talks with Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh on promoting cooperation between London and Amman.

**136 SUMMER CLUBS:** Ministry of Education has completed arrangements for setting up 136 summer clubs throughout the Kingdom during July and August, according to reports in the local Arabic daily newspapers. These clubs will provide entertainment for some 20,000 students during the summer holiday.

**UNIFIED CUSTOMS CENTRE:** Jordan and Iraq will soon make contacts to facilitate border procedures between the two countries and to set up a unified customs centre, according to reports in the local Arabic dailies.

**16,290 TREES:** A total of 16,290 trees and bushes were planted by the Greater Amman Municipality in April in the municipality's various public gardens in the country.

**MOTHER, CHILD CARE:** The Ministry of Health will hold a national conference on mother and child care during the first week of June in cooperation with the World Bank and the World Health Organisation (WHO), according to a report in the local Arabic papers. The holding of the conference was discussed recently between Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh and a World Bank delegation. Taking part in the planned conference in addition to Jordan are the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), and the European Community (EC).

## Israeli army imposes massive presence in Jerusalem

(Continued from page 1) Shaher Sa'ad, head of the General Federation of West Bank Labour Unions, Palestinian sources said. The union represents thousands of Arab workers.

Colonel David Yahav, legal adviser to the army's central command, said the 1,900 Palestinians of the West Bank and occupied Gaza Strip who have been detained for up to six months without trial were "security" risks.

"I cannot give you an exact answer in each case, but you can't just put someone under arrest for no reason," he told Israel Radio.

An Israeli member of parliament said Thursday that democracy in Israel was being eroded by the army orders which allow the arrest of Palestinians without trial.

Dedi Zucker of the Citizens Rights Movement said he wrote to the Israel bar and the law deans of universities protesting against the "administrative detention" orders.

About 30 Palestinian journalists are among those held under "administrative detention."

In another development, the

Israeli army plans to make the prison system more efficient in an effort to cope with thousands of Palestinians arrested since the start of the uprising, a military source told the AP.

Lawyers for Palestinian prisoners said Thursday that the military justice system has collapsed under the sheer numbers of detainees, noting that many are held incommunicado for weeks or miss court appearances because authorities can't locate them.

"It's a big mess," Israeli lawyer Lea Tsemel told the AP. "The army is completely inefficient."

About 8,100 Palestinians are in prison awaiting trial or serving sentences for specific charges, legislator Zucker said.

Similar figures were released by Law in the Service of Man, a human rights monitoring group founded by lawyers in the West Bank. The organisation said between 7,000-9,000 Palestinians are being held in, in addition to about 2,000 administrative detainees.

Since the Dec. 8 start of the uprising, 17,000 Palestinians have been detained, said Jonathan

Kuttab, a lawyer and member of the group.

Army officials refused comment.

A leaflet distributed Thursday in Gaza City's Sabra neighbourhood by the clandestine Unified National Leadership of the Uprisings and the Sabra national committee asked residents to boycott an Israeli drive to replace identity cards.

Several thousand cards have been replaced in the last two weeks in an operation Israel says is for administrative purposes. But commentators have said the move is intended to increase control over Palestinians.

### U.S. request rejected

Israel has rejected a U.S. request to hold a joint investigation of human rights abuses against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a senior Israeli official said Friday.

Yossi Beilin, the foreign ministry's political director general, told Israel Radio the request was raised at a meeting with two senior State Department officials in Washington this week to dis-

## Syrians ready to enter S. Beirut

(Continued from page 1) gave no details of what it said. It was the first time SANA had reported a contact between Assad and Khamenei since the Amal-Hizbollah fighting erupted two weeks ago.

Beshrati has been shuttling between Damascus and Beirut to coordinate efforts to end the fighting.

Diplomats said SANA's announcement of the meeting and the letter could mean that details of the Syrian deployment had been settled.

Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, Hizbollah's spiritual guide, also voiced cautious approval of a Syrian deployment.

"The entry of Syrian troops is a possibility. No one is thinking of confronting the Syrians," he said.

Meanwhile Amal said Friday it blocked an attempt by Hizbollah to swap a foreign hostage for weapons and ammunition from rightist militias.

"Amal has thwarted an attempt by Hizbollah to turn over a foreign hostage to the Lebanese Forces (militia) in return for ammunition and weapons for Hizbollah's besieged base in Hajjaj street," said Atif Aoun, a member of Amal's politburo.

Aoun, addressing some 10,000 supporters of Amal in the southern town of Zahran, said the militia foiled the alleged swap "after we found out about the contacts between Hizbollah and the Lebanese Forces." He did not elaborate.

Aoun did not say whether one particular hostage or nationality was involved in the alleged deal.

## Iran says it is at war with U.S.

(Continued from page 1) hut with "global arrogance," a familiar Iranian reference to the United States.

He urged that Iranians increase our military strength... to take more effective and important steps on the war front.

Rafsanjani, who is close to Khomeini, again claimed U.S. forces had participated in last Saturday's devastating Iraqi air strike on the Larak Island oil terminal by jamming Iranian defence radar and radio communications. The Pentagon has denied that.

Rafsanjani warned it was time that Americans "think about the implications of an eventual encounter between Iran and the United States."

IRNA quoted him as saying: "Should this war extend to new

frontiers, the Americans will simply take delivery of the bodies of Americans throughout the world.

"Our nation, which is not prepared to abandon the arena with these threats and intimidation after eight years, should prepare itself from every point of view so as to confront these plots."

He stressed that Iran does not "desire such a situation," but declared: "The American nation should know that a war by the American government with the Iranian nation would cost them dearly."

In Paris, the French Defence Ministry said the mine-hunter Andromede had found and would destroy a mine found in Iran's Rostam oilfield in the south central Gulf, 130 kilometres east of Qatar.

IRNA quoted him as saying: "Should this war extend to new

## 5 killed in different incidents

AMMAN (J.T.) — At least five people were killed and more than 40 others injured in accidents and accidents that occurred in the country.

The report said that at least 1,973 people were admitted to hospital in the country during the Eid Al Fitr holiday for treatment from various injuries and food poisoning including children injured from falls.

Al Bashir Hospital in Amman had the lion's share of patients arriving at its emergency ward for treatment, the report noted.

The paper also reported derailments of three trains operating in the southern regions of the country.

Fires also caused the destruction of crops and nearly 290 trees in 3,235 dunums of land around

One of the trains, the report, said was carrying 504 tonnes of phosphate. The derailment was caused by expansion of the iron rail due to the intensive heat, the second derailment resulted in heavy damage to a train and its compartments.

The third train was derailed near Al Jurf district, also causing heavy damage to the locomotive and the wagons.

CDD teams were called out to offer help and put out fires that engulfed the trains.

Director of the Ministry's Anti-AIDS Division Hani Shamout

said in an interview published in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Friday that two of the 11 AIDS cases discovered in the Kingdom were of foreign nationals who have now left the country.

The rest are Jordanians, four of whom had received blood transfusion while living abroad, Shamout said.

Shamout said his department has organised a series of seminars for Health Ministry doctors and technicians at the blood banks in Jordan, to orient them on means of combating the killer disease.

He said that Jordan does not import any blood from other countries except in rare cases, and the imported quantities undergo screening to ensure the patients' safety.

Shamout said AIDS is being contracted mainly through blood transfusions and homosexuality.

and that there is yet no vaccination against the disease nor there has been any hope for any AIDS victim to survive.

On May 10, reports in the local press said that one Jordanian carrier of AIDS has been admitted to hospital in Amman after it was found that he had fallen victim to the killer disease.

According to Shamout, the AIDS incubation period could extend between a few months and several years before the real symptoms of AIDS start to appear on the patient.

The Health Ministry last October announced the discovery of 12 cases of AIDS in Jordan, eight of the carriers, it said, were Jordanians; and in January 1988 the ministry reported the death of one of the victims who had been undergoing medical treatment in Amman.

His death raised to three the total number of AIDS victims to die in Jordan.

The Ministry last month announced that a national committee charged with taking measures against AIDS was taking up steps to stem the spread of the disease by providing information

Towards the end of the ceremony Qarden distributed gifts and awards to JEPCO's veteran workers.

Qarden also paid tribute to the

JEPCO's services in supplying power to the public around the clock, and urged workers for further efforts to serve their country.

Qarden also made a speech on the occasion in which he said that the ceremony was to honour all JEPCO workers and employees on this occasion.

Qarden reviewed the company's development since 1938 and the difficulties it had to overcome.



## JEPCO marks 50th anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) Thursday celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Services who, he said, constituted one of the first groups to contribute to the construction of the Kingdom.

A ceremony, organised by the General Union of Electricity Workers in Amman to mark the occasion, was attended by ministers of tourism, and water and irrigation along with senior government officials and JEPCO's board Chairman Mohammad Ali Budier.

The General Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions Samir Qarden delivered a speech on the occasion, paying tribute to the pioneers in electric power ser-

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## Jordan Times

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## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

## Al Ra'i: Continued struggle

WITH the American-Soviet summit meeting in Moscow only 10 days away, we hear American officials in Washington casting doubts on the possibility of reaching consensus on the Middle East between the leaders of the two superpowers. This attitude reflects the true intention of the American administration of trying to avoid this issue in the coming summit, and represents a clear signal to Israel that its occupation of Arab land will go on unhindered. This statement and these reports indicate that Washington is determined to remain the sole manipulator of the situation in the Middle East region and does not wish to abandon its monopoly. It is not strange for Washington to act in this way, but the Americans should realize that they cannot remain dominant, and they cannot continue holding the winning cards in the game. It has become clear for all that the people of Palestine, now struggling for freedom, hold the real trump cards; and their escalation of resistance and through their revolution they can achieve their aspired national goals. Washington should be reminded that the Jordanian six-point document handed to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is not subject for compromise at any parley since it contains the basic principles in which the Arab Nation believes and strives to fulfil. The Arabs believe that despite everything and despite the coming superpower summit, the only means for regaining their rights is through continued struggle.

## Al Dustour: Bolstering Arab stand

THE favourable response to King Hussein's proposal for the formation of an Arab Rapid Deployment Force to defend Arab countries reflects the Arab people's desire to end all forms of aggression on their land and thwart foreign countries' ambitions in the Arab World. The enthusiastic welcome of the King's ideas underlines the Arab people's desire to start working seriously for their unity and for bolstering their strength in the face of the common enemies. It is no secret that Arab security which has been exposed to several shocks in the past few years can only be preserved through solidarity, unity and collective action. The King who is advocating the idea of the Rapid Deployment Force realises the proportions of challenges and dangers posed against this nation, and is keen on opening the way for joint action to repel this danger. Therefore, we deem it necessary for all coming Arab meetings to take up this proposal and discuss it seriously and in detail, since the aim and the objectives of this idea is to strengthen the Arab stand. There is nothing more important than bolstering the Arab stand at the moment in view of the dangers posed to the nation and with the purpose of preserving Arab security.

## Sawt Al Shaab: Shamir blocks peace

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his American allies constitute the stumbling block in the path of convening an international peace conference that would find a just and lasting solution for the Middle East problem. Shamir and his allies are adhering to their intransigent position in the face of the whole world and in contradiction to reason, regardless of the fact that the Arab-Israeli conflict remains the root cause of evil and wars in this region. Shamir who is opposing the idea of peace lives in total illusion since he ignores the facts of history. He is still under the influence of rotten ideas of imposing Zionist rule over the Arab land, and at the same time ignore the Palestinian revolution which is escalating every day. Shamir is stepping up repressive measures against the Arabs and pursuing atrocities against the Palestinians in the hope of executing Zionist plans in the Arab land. Even Shamir's American allies have been criticising the Israeli government's actions, describing them as causing the loss of a real opportunity for peace. Yet, and despite everything, Shamir is adamant in his position and assured of continued American help and support no matter what Israel's policies might be.

Thursday's

## Al Ra'i: Reasons for optimism

PRESIDENT Reagan expressed optimism over a settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict following a meeting in Washington with Israel's Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, but he did not reveal the secret behind his optimism. The two men discussed U.S. proposals as advocated by Secretary of State George Shultz with regard to the Middle East problem. But if these proposals were behind this optimism, it should be emphasised that they are still short of meeting Arab demands and, therefore, they are in need of amendments to become more palatable. We also should see a change in the Israeli intransigent position and an acceptance by the Jewish state of the idea of an international conference. Given the present situation we find no reason for any optimism in Washington since nothing has changed in the American and Israeli stands. In contrast, the Arabs have more reason to be optimistic over the situation due to a pan-Arab consensus on the Jordanian six-point document handed over to Shultz during his last trip to the region, due to Arab rejection of any partial settlements and due to Arab countries' determination to reach a comprehensive peace which would allow the Palestinian people to exercise their full rights and regain their lands. In addition, we have reason to be optimistic due to the cohesion that exists among our people, Jordan's total rejection of an alternative Palestinian homeland and the continued uprising in the occupied Arab territories which gives hope for a solution.

## Al Dustour: Common cause

KING Hussein ended his tours of Jordanian cities by visiting Tafith in southern Jordan on Eid Al Fitr where he greeted the Jordanian people in the East and the West Bank and where he described the uprising of Palestinians as a real revolt designed to end 20 years of injustice and oppression. The King voiced his pride in the uprising which has lasted for six months so far, and paid tribute to the great sacrifices offered by the Arab people in their struggle for freedom. As he did, during earlier iftar banquets in other Jordanian cities, King Hussein said Jordan would continue to extend support for the Palestinian people in every domain until justice is done and until the Palestinians regain their full rights. To support the Palestinian uprising, the King said, Jordan will continue efforts to convene an international Middle East peace conference and will reject all plots to establish an alternative homeland for the Palestinians outside their own country. The King reiterated that the Palestinians should represent themselves at future negotiations for a settlement, and that Jordan would persist in efforts to help the Palestinians determine their own future on their own soil.

## Palestinian uprising digs in for long haul

By Paul Taylor  
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli leaders claim it is dying, but a Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip appears to be alive and well, and digging in for a long struggle.

After more than five months of revolt against Israeli rule, stone-throwing Palestinians are still clashing with troops daily, despite at least 183 deaths, thousands of injuries and the jailing of nearly 10,000 people.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin noted this week that violence was now far less widespread than between January and March, and said Israeli security and economic measures were gradually exhausting the 1.5 million Palestinians in the occupation zone.

But a confidential report to Rabin by his own experts contradicts these assertions and fore-

casts a long and violent conflict, defence sources say.

Leading Palestinians say Israeli talk of an end to the uprising is mere wishful thinking.

"The *intifada* (uprising) has become institutionalised. It has put down roots that will be very difficult to uproot," said Daoud Kuttab, an East Jerusalem journalist and commentator. "It will stay long after the stones have stopped flying, which incidentally they haven't."

The battle between the Israeli military and the Palestinians has spread from the streets to the homes, workplaces, hearts, minds and wallets of the population.

The Israelis have tried to wear the Arabs down with curfews, harassment, bureaucracy and financial hardship. They have managed to reduce the flow of outside money supporting the uprising to a trickle.

Palestinians have countered with their own self-help organisa-

tions.

Kuttab and other Arab intellectuals point to a network of committees which have sprouted like an embryonic self-government in the occupied territories.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

The committees organise strikes and run underground schools, basic health and welfare services for casualties of the uprising and families of the imprisoned and those who have quit Israeli jobs. They organise local security vigils, legal aid and agriculture for those who have begun cultivating plots of land.

This organisation has given Palestinians an unprecedented self-esteem and sense of togetherness which is the spirit of the *intifada*.

"Who is losing more, us or the Israelis?" asked Said, a local organiser in the village of Beit Ummar. "Our people have never

felt better, despite the hardships."

The size of crowds that still defied Israeli security forces to demonstrate in occupied Jerusalem and in the hundreds of scattered villages in the West Bank belie Israeli talk of fatigue and demoralisation.

Palestinians may have realised the uprising will not put an early end to the 21-year-old Israeli occupation, as some had believed, but they seem in no mood to stop the revolt.

Hundreds of youths arrested in the first weeks of unrest are due out of Israeli prison camps in the coming weeks. They will return to their villages and refugee camps as hardened political activists, seen as heroes by their society.

Reporters visiting the West Bank village of Deir Ammar, near Ramallah, this week encountered a crowd of some 150 men armed with stone who had been confronting the army all day

after soldiers bulldozed some roadside trees in punishment for rock-throwing at Israeli vehicles.

There are dozens of such incidents daily and they do not rate mention in the Israeli or foreign media unless protesters are killed or seriously wounded.

In other fields, the *intifada* appears to have touched its limits, at least for the moment.

Despite repeated calls and threats in clandestine leaflets, the Israeli-appointed mayors of most West Bank towns have not resigned. A few of the 500 Arab policemen who resigned in the West Bank and Gaza have drifted back to work because they need the money.

There are signs of a debate among Palestinian leaders over what course the uprising should now take.

Some say privately they are worried that the backlash in Israeli society could bring a right-wing victory in next November's general election and

tougher anti-Arab policies.

They suggest the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) counter with a diplomatic initiative towards peace talks.

Many others, however, say the Israeli poll outcome makes no difference to the Palestinians, since all parts of the present "national unity" government agree on repression in the occupied territories.

One hardliner said West Bank and Gaza Strip residents would explode in anger if the PLO, pursuing diplomatic respectability, made a concession towards Israel.

An Israeli army expert on the West Bank said Israeli economic and administrative sanctions had slowed the momentum of the uprising and prevented a complete break between the population and the occupation authorities.

But she added: "Maybe we are seeing the end of round one, not the end of the *intifada*."

## Kiss-and-tell damages Reagan's pre-summit image

By Sue Baker  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — A series of embarrassing revelations over White House idiosyncrasies, including Nancy Reagan's star-gazing, have heaped ridicule on President Reagan as he heads for crucial summit meetings with world leaders.

Two weeks before the Moscow summit, and a month before the seven-nation economic summit in Toronto, Reagan's image as a strong, politically astute president has been tarnished by a spate of "kiss-and-tell" books by former White House aides.

Already reeling from a global barrage of editorials and cartoons poking fun at the president and his wife over the influence of astrology in their lives, Reagan compounded a sense of White House end-of-term dislocation by flubbing a long-awaited endorsement of his loyal lieutenant George Bush for president.

The president, who leaves office next January, gave what was widely seen as a lukewarm embrace of Bush last Wednesday — even mispronouncing the vice president's name at one point as "Boosh" — and then scrambled to contain the political fall-out by issuing another endorsement in the statement the next day.

Reagan's spokesman, Marlin Fitzwater, did his best last week to deflect criticism under tough questioning from White House reporters who insisted on addressing him as "Merlin" after the

Wizard of Camelot.

He denied astrology had played any part in selecting dates for the May 29-June 2 Moscow summit and scoffed at suggestions the president would be weakened by the rumpus in his talks with Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev or the late June economic summit with his fellow Western leaders.

"These are all interesting fun and games here in Washington and people like to read about it but it doesn't influence people in government or people in other countries who are making major policy decisions," Fitzwater said.

Former White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan, in his book "For the Record: From Wall Street to Washington," published last Monday, disclosed that Nancy Reagan dictated the president's travel plans and schedule after consulting a San Francisco astrologer.

The revelations prompted bemused and angry reaction in the world media, with some lampooning a world leader who let his wife's foibles affect his work, and others voicing concern about what they saw as a "trivialisation" of the presidency.

Most analysts agreed the episode had embarrassed the president and made him look foolish. But they also doubted any of the "Kiss-and-Tell" revelations would permanently damage Reagan's image or harm his negotiations with Gorbachev.

"They give Soviet spokesmen a chance to make wisecracks to kind of put the United States on the defensive a little bit," Helmut

Sonnenfeld, a former State Department official, said.

"But the Soviets don't want to diminish Reagan's stature too much because they want a carryover (of improving U.S.-Soviet relations) in the next administration," he said.

But Regan's depiction of Reagan as disengaged, disinterested and indecisive, while potentially more serious, was largely overlooked — despite the reinforcement it offered to similarly unflattering views of the president in recent books by former press secretary Larry Speakes and former deputy White House chief of staff Michael Deaver.

"Ronald Reagan... has been protected by the national mythology," said David Kaiser, a history professor at Carnegie Mellon University in a New York Times article last Friday, exploring the president's enduring popularity with the American public.

"Like adherents of some religious flock, Americans have stubbornly resisted the reality of the man we elected: a two landshades," he said.

But some critics say the astrology tale, and other anecdotes depicting Reagan as a largely ignorant and passive president compliant to his wife's wishes, may taint his standing in history because they reflect a broader shortcoming of distracted superpower leadership.

In his memoir, Regan wrote that in addition to foisting an astrologer upon the White House the first lady had created a "Shad-

dow Distaff Presidency," intervening to force out cabinet members and officials.

Regan's memoir was widely

seen as the former chief of staff's revenge on Mrs. Reagan whom he holds responsible for his abrupt ouster from the White House in February 1987.

Speakes, in his book "Speaking Out," published last month, disclosed he had fabricated presidential quotes and passed them on to the press as Reagan's own.

Deaver's recent memoir, "Behind the Scenes," described

Reagan, 77, as innocent and unrealistic, with a habit of turning to the comics page when the newspaper arrived.

"I do not believe he could have survived politically, to the extent he has, without people protecting him," wrote Deaver, a close friend of the Reagans.

"My opinion is that... the Reagan presidency will be seen as a revolutionary presidency, perhaps more so than any presidency since FDR (Franklin Delano Roosevelt) because he has changed the agenda and in my opinion it's better," Shultz said.

## Melanesian nationalism on rise one year after Fiji coup

By Francis Daniel  
Reuter

SYDNEY — A military coup in Fiji and violence in the French territory of New Caledonia have triggered a surge of nationalism which could shatter political tranquility in the South Pacific.

The indigenous Melanesians have long been admired for their gentleness and leisurely approach to life.

But racial tension in both is-

land groups has led to a new militancy which threatens to spill over the whole region.

Diplomats and political leaders told Reuters that unless the situation was defused, it could lead to widespread instability in an area which they say is already a target for Soviet and Libyan activity.

A senior Fijian minister, who did not want to be named, told Reuters the coup led by Brigadier-General Sitiveni Rabuka on May 14, 1987 had helped arouse "latent nationalistic desires of the indigenous people of the South Pacific."

He added: "These tendencies will surface more and more in the years to come. The South Pacific will become a politically volatile area and it will not subside until nationalistic indigenous desires are fulfilled."

In the Solomon Islands, the government says it is reviewing its constitution to protect indigenous rights and restrict immigration.

Ethnic Chinese, mostly business-

men, form 10 per cent of the 200,000 population.

A year after the coup in Fiji, the military is entrenched behind an interim civilian government committed to ensuring Melane-

sians remain in perpetual political control.

In New Caledonia, Melanesian Kanaks, demanding independence, have called a temporary halt to a violent anti-French campaign in which about 30 people have been killed.

Other South Pacific island states applauded the aims of the Fijian coup, condemned the French and declared full support for the Kanak cause, seeing it as a battle for the Melanesian birthright.

Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu formalised their Melanesian spearhead group in March and invited Fiji to join them in consolidating traditional cultural and economic links.

Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Paita Wingti told France Wednesday it should withdraw its troops from New Caledonia immediately to avoid a bloodbath.

None of the Melanesian island states has the strength to provide overt assistance to the Kanaks, but they have vowed to mount an international campaign to end French rule in New Caledonia.

Officials of the 14-member South Pacific Forum warned that France could not dismiss the current Kanak campaign and its harsh military response as purely an internal matter.

The Melanesian states were also more united after developments in Fiji, they said.

Rabuka, who kidnapped Fiji's first Indian-dominated government from parliament at gunpoint, has vowed to ensure indigenous people will always be masters in their own land.

He has said ethnic Indians, who dominate Fiji's economy,

will never again be allowed political credibility.

The Kanaks, unable to get Western help, may turn to Libya," said a senior official in Solomon Islands.

A radical Kanak leader, Yann Celene Uregei, recently hailed Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi for giving "impetus and encouragement to collective revolution

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Congressman urges Awad release

WASHINGTON (USA) — Democratic Congressman David E. Bonior introduced legislation Thursday calling on Israel to release Mubarak Awad, the Palestinian-American peace activist, and to allow him to continue his work on behalf of a non-violent solution to the problems in the Middle East. "Mubarak Awad's commitment to non-violence, his willingness to work for peaceful change in the Middle East strikes a positive chord with all people of conscience," Bonior stated. "Israel should be reaching out to people like Awad rather than seeking to silence them."

### EC parliament condemns Turkey

STRASBOURG (R) — The European parliament Friday condemned the Turkish occupation of Northern Cyprus and said the European Community (EC) should press Turkey to withdraw its troops. The parliament said the occupation was a major stumbling block in improving relations with Turkey, which last year applied to join the 12-nation EC. It called on EC foreign ministers to put pressure on the Turkish government to draw up a precise timetable for the withdrawal of its troops. The issue last month forced a last-minute cancellation of talks between the EC and Turkey on improved economic ties after Greece insisted that the community should make a reference to Cyprus in their discussions. Turkey refused to take part in the talks, saying it would not accept a link between the Cyprus issue and its relations with the community.

### Istanbul blast injures 10 people

ISTANBUL (AP) — A time-bomb exploded Thursday at a bus terminal in Istanbul, injuring 10 people, police said. Istanbul's police chief Unal Erkan told the AP that the bomb, planted in a garbage can at the Topkapi Trakya bus terminal, went off at 8:15 a.m. (0615 GMT). On April 28, two small blasts, which injured one woman and caused some damage in Istanbul, were claimed by the outlawed leftist groups Turkish Workers' and Peasants' Liberation Army and the Revolutionary Left.

### Canadian clergyman in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — A Canadian clergyman arrived Friday to try to deliver a petition organised by a Christian human rights group to a Shi'ite Muslim religious leader asking him to intercede to gain freedom for foreign hostages. Ray Barnett, a representative of "friends in the West," a Seattle-based organisation, arrived in the port of Jounieh at 7 a.m. (0500 GMT), a police spokesman said. In the United States, former hostage David Jacobsen said Wednesday the prayerful plea had been carried out of the United States this week and was expected to be delivered this weekend to Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah.

### Sofaer took coins out of Israel

WASHINGTON (R) — A senior U.S. legal official who is an amateur coin collector took coins out of Israel illegally because he did not know an export licence was required, the State Department said Sunday. Judge Abraham Sofaer, the depart-

### Restoration of Cairo-Algiers formal ties said imminent

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt expects to resume diplomatic relations next week with Algeria, one of Cairo's harshest critics for its 1979 treaty with Israel, according to a leading state-owned publication.

The rapprochement would end a rupture of more than nine years and leave only Libya and Syria among original hard-line radicals shunning Egypt because of its Israeli connections. Lebanon, in Syria's shadow, also has not returned an ambassador to Cairo.

Al Muzzawar, a weekly known to be close to the top echelons of government, said Thursday Egypt's reconciliation with Algeria was expected to be announced next Wednesday in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa.

A joint statement is expected to be distributed there after a meeting between the two presidents, Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Algeria's Chadli Benjedid. Al Muzzawar said. They will be in Ethiopia for a pan-African summit conference marking the silver jubilee of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), headquartered in Addis Ababa.

Al Muzzawar said Osama Al-Baz, Mubarak's top political aide, would visit Algeria Saturday and Sunday to prepare for the Benjedid-Mubarak summit. "Agreement has been reached on the wording of the joint statement," it added.

If the diplomatic reconciliation occurs as forecast, Algeria will be the 12th member of the Arab League to restore ties with Egypt since the Arab summit last November in Amman. A summit resolution absolved members of any collective obligation to maintain a league-imposed break with Egypt that followed its 1979 treaty with Israel.

Other members of the Arab League, with the exception of Sudan, Somalia and Oman, broke relations after the treaty signing in March 1979. Jordan restored ties in 1984, Djibouti two years later.

Since the Amman summit, all the rest have restored relations except Algeria, Libya, Syria and Lebanon.

The two ayatollahs, in their 80s, are known for their conservative views on economic and social affairs. They rarely issue political statements, but their pronouncements carry weight because of their rank in the Shi'ite clerical hierarchy.

There is opposition to the 7½-year-old war among Iranian clerics on religious and political grounds, but Khomeini's adamant support for pursuing the

war as a sacred duty greatly narrows the scope of public debate on merits of the war.

Ayatollah Ahmad Azari Qomi, himself a conservative member of parliament, wrote in Resalat newspaper last January:

"Certain (Islamic) scholars and professors of our time should know that indifference to sacred defence and crying out for peace... puts them in the ranks of Saad, Abdallah and Osameh (figures in the dawn of Islam) for not going to war."

The radio said Thursday the denials were made by the offices of Ayatollah Mohammad Reza Golpayegani and Ayatollah Shahabeddin Marashi Nujafi in the holy city of Qom.

The British daily Independent reported Monday that the two grand ayatollahs had written an open letter to Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini asking for an end to the war and talks with other Muslim countries to restore Iran's position in the Islamic World.

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## Ambassador offers assistance

## Japan perceives pivotal Jordanian role

The following is the first of a three-part series in which Jordan Times economic reporter Salameh Nejmatt attempts to assess Japan's growing interest in Jordan and the region and the Kingdom's recent investment mission to Tokyo. In this part, he interviews Japan's ambassador to Jordan.

JAPAN seems determined to get its feet wet in the Middle East as it begins stretching its political involvement parallel to its economic influence in the region. The move is globally perceived as a long overdue step by the world's second largest economy.

Tokyo's decision last October to extend a \$300 million soft loan to Jordan was justified by Jordanian and Japanese officials as an acknowledgement by Tokyo of Jordan's pivotal role in the stability of the entire region, including the Arab Gulf.

Last month, Jordan responded to the apparently surprise action

by Tokyo, by organising a trade and investment mission to the Japanese capital consisting of representatives at the official level and the private sector.

"At our own initiative, we felt the need to play a bigger role — a role we are expected to play as a large economy," Japan's ambassador to Jordan, Makato Watanabe, told the Jordan Times.

Japan's interest in the Middle

East started with Gulf oil and

over the years, Tokyo began de-

veloping its relations with Gulf

states.

"But because of the general

awareness of the need to make

political contributions, we be-  
came more interested in the Mid-  
dle East in a broader sense," Watanabe explained. "We be-  
came aware of Jordan's role in  
the Middle East and the entire  
region," he continued, referring  
to Japan's \$300 million develop-  
ment assistance package to Jordan.

"It was one example of  
increasing involvement."

Japan has recently been active  
in diplomatic efforts in the Gulf  
aimed at reaching an end to the  
tanker war in the waterway and  
help the United Nations Secretary-  
General Javier Perez de

Cuellar in his mediation efforts to  
end the seven-and-a-half year

Iran-Iraq conflict.

He said that talks in Japan,  
during the Crown Prince's visit  
last month, covered the Middle

East, the Gulf war and Afghani-

stan.

In addition, he added, there  
were talks which centred on gov-  
ernment to government economic  
cooperation with private sector  
involvement. He said there was a  
considerably high degree of in-  
terest in Jordan among Japanese  
businessmen and that the oppor-  
tunity provided by the visit was  
well used.

However, Watanabe pointed  
out, "we will have to do a lot of  
follow up work, particularly on  
the economic level."

He believes that the two gov-  
ernments can help their respec-  
tive private sectors to develop  
contacts and establish coopera-  
tion.

"I am glad to see the Jordanian  
industry seeking ways to develop  
contacts with the Japanese pri-  
vate sector." He said he was  
"quite willing to be of as much  
help as possible."

He pointed out that the cul-  
tural and academic exchanges are  
an area where much can be done  
in cooperation between the two  
countries, as part of the effort to  
acquaint people in both countries  
with each other.

Watanabe served his country in  
Washington D.C. between 1981  
and 1985 and worked on the U.S.  
desk at the foreign ministry in  
Tokyo before he was appointed  
in March as ambassador to Jordan.

In an earlier interview with the  
Jordan Times and Al Ra'i, the  
director of the higher council of  
science and technology's com-  
munication and international rela-  
tions section, Dr. Mazen Al  
Armouti, said the mission to  
Japan had achieved its objectives  
in various ways.

Armouti, who was a member



Makato Watanabe

of the delegation to Japan, said  
the tour served as an important  
opportunity which Crown Prince  
Hassan "used efficiently and pro-  
fessionally to present and analyse  
the current situation in the region  
and South West Asia."

Armouti said that the integral  
organic relations between coun-  
tries of South Western Asia, fig-  
ured high during the Tokyo  
talks, with Crown Prince Hassan  
highlighting Jordan's "active and  
important role as a pillar of stabil-  
ity and balance" in the region and  
"a driving force for inter-regional  
cooperation."

He referred to His Majesty  
King Hussein's efforts to rally the  
Arab fold and formulate a pan-  
Arab stand during the extraordi-  
nary Arab summit held in Amman  
last November.

In the interview, Armouti said  
economic and investment dimen-  
sions of the tour were covered  
effectively through intensive,  
clear and influential presenta-  
tions of the concept of bilateral,  
regional and international eco-  
nomic relations through broad  
starting points that eliminate the  
narrow vision of inter-regional  
interests.

The starting points, according  
to Armouti, "should be based on  
common economic interests and a  
stable framework for bilateral  
cooperation."

Armouti asserted that the  
Japanese side "has realised the  
advantages of investments in Jordan  
in terms of the Kingdom's geo-  
graphic location, investment  
atmosphere, flexible laws and  
regulations and the Kingdom's  
distinguished position as a centre  
for technological advancement  
and qualified manpower and its  
credibility and close ties with all  
countries of the region."

Possibilities for utilising pre-  
ferential treatment given to Jordan  
by the Council of Arab Eco-  
nomic Unity, the European Com-  
munity and the U.S. were also  
discussed.



Jordanian and Indian officials sign air transport agreement (Petra photo)

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — Jordan and India Thursday signed an  
agreement on cooperation in air  
transport to come into effect by  
July 1988.

Under the terms of the agree-  
ment, Royal Jordanian, the direc-  
tor general of the Jordan's Civil  
Aviation Authority and the  
under-secretary of the Indian  
Civil Aviation Authority in the  
presence of RJ officials.

The move was described by  
Jordanian airline officials as de-  
signed to help bolster Jordanian-  
Indian relations and promote

tourist and economic ties be-  
tween the two countries.

The agreement was signed at  
Alia Gateway Hotel by the direc-  
tor general of the Jordan's Civil  
Aviation Authority and the  
under-secretary of the Indian  
Civil Aviation Authority in the  
presence of RJ officials.

An Indian team to the talks  
arrived here Tuesday and im-  
mediately embarked on talks with  
the Civil Aviation Authority offi-  
cials to promote air transport

cooperation between India and  
Jordan.

The team, which has now left  
for home, has also toured a num-  
ber of archaeological and tourist  
sites in the Kingdom.

In February last year, an Indian  
civil aviation delegation visited  
Amman and held talks with RJ  
officials on operating a direct air  
link between India and Jordan.  
The visit resulted in the signing of  
a tentative memorandum of  
understanding to bolster bilateral  
cooperation in air transport.

## Indicators show strong Jordanian activities

Following is the second and final part of the economic review  
reprinted from the 1987 annual report of Jordan's Industrial  
Development Bank. Part I appeared in Thursday's issue.

### Agriculture

Preliminary figures show that  
agricultural production during  
1987 increased in comparison  
with 1986.

The government continued its  
policy which aims at encouraging  
grain production, reclamation of  
land, afforestation and organisa-  
tion of agricultural production.

During 1987, fifty eight thousand  
dunums in the southern and eastern  
regions of the Kingdom were  
rented to agricultural companies  
in the private sector for grain  
production.

Another 114 thousand dunums  
in the same area were rented in  
1986 and production is expected

in 1988 to 20.1 million tons in  
1987 or by 19.6 per cent.

Jordan's exports have in-  
creased during the first ten  
months of 1987 to JD 191.6 mil-  
lion or by 4.4 per cent over the  
corresponding period of 1986. In-  
dustrial exports constituted 58.8  
per cent of total exports marking  
an increase of 20.8 per cent over  
the corresponding period of 1986.

Total value of phosphate ex-  
ported amounted to JD 50.7 mil-  
lion or 26.4 per cent of total  
exports. Potash exports  
amounted during the period to  
JD 17.0 million.

Imports decreased during the  
first ten months of 1987 to JD  
703.2 million or by 0.12 per cent.

Consequently, the balance of  
payments showed a deficit of JD  
511.5 million during the first ten  
months of 1987 compared to JD  
520.5 million deficit during the  
corresponding period of 1986.

Outstanding credit facilities of  
commercial banks extended to all  
sectors of the economy increased  
to JD 1,513,033 million or by 8.4  
per cent over 1986. Credit to  
industry, mining and tourism de-  
creased by 2.1 per cent compared  
to 1986.

### Monetary development

The Central Bank of Jordan  
continued to direct monetary  
policy with the aim of maintaining  
monetary stability, facilitating  
general economic activities and  
encouraging investment in de-  
velopment projects.

In respect several measures were  
taken, such as reduction of re-  
serve ratio on demand deposits  
from nine per cent to five per  
cent. Such reduction was applica-  
ble on that part of commercial  
reserves equivalent to bank's in-  
vestment in treasury bills.

The Central Bank of Jordan  
also allowed commercial banks to  
reduce investment from 15 per  
cent to nine per cent of their paid  
up capital and reserves in shares  
of local shareholding companies  
with the aim of increasing liquid-  
ity of commercial banks.

To encourage export financing,  
the central bank adjusted its  
general terms of discount pro-  
vided to commercial banks for  
export purposes to include all  
local companies.

### FOR SALE

1974 FIAT-124  
Price JD 200. Duty Free

Tel: 843555 Ext. 3964



### COURSES

The Goethe-Institute Amman announces the registration for the  
following: German Language Courses for all levels which will  
start on the May 28 and run until July 23.

An intensive summer course with 20 lessons weekly (morning  
classes) for beginners from May 28 - July 30.

Registrations for the above courses take place on May 24 and 26

from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4 - 7 p.m.

Examination for German as a foreign language will

take place on May 21 and 24 between 4 and 7 p.m. Last day for  
registration is Saturday May 21 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For further information please phone 641993 during  
office hours.

### TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Natural Resources Authority invites the interested tenderers  
to submit their offers for bid No. (62/88) regarding Image  
Processing System. Closing date will be on Sunday  
June 5, 1988 1 p.m.

Interested vendors can obtain the tenders documents and  
specifications from the purchasing Division of NRA, 8th  
Circle (Bader Wadi Essier) for the sum of JD 5 (non-  
refundable).

A bid bond for (5%) of total amount as a bank guarantee  
or endorsement cheque is to be submitted with the offer,  
otherwise it will be rejected.

Natural Resources Authority

### FOR RENT

A furnished semi-villa: Two bedrooms, telephone, with all  
facilities.

Location: Beside Amra Hotel

For more information, please call tel.: 815302

**BRITISH WEEK**  
21 - 27 MAY 1988

At the Marriott Hotel

Daily 1000 - 2000 British Travel Display tourist attractions in Great Britain. (free)

Daily 1000 - 2000 A Display of the Crown Jewels in the Tower of London (free)

23 - 24 May 1930 A Medieval Banquet with the Caldicott Castle Group, a playing Minstrel and Court Jester in attendance

25 May 1400 A Punch and Judy matinee for the children (free)

25 May 1930 The British Council present the film Great Expectations at the Marriott Hotel (free)

26 - 27 May See the hot air balloon flying above the hotel

The British Ladies of Amman

27 May 1100 The Annual May Fair at the Residence of HE the British Ambassador, Jabal Amman, between 3rd and Fourth Circles.

**THE AMMAN PLAYERS Present**

The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate's Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of Macbeth A comedy On May 23, 24 + 25, 1988 Dinner and show at Hotel Jordan Intercontinental 7:30 p.m. start. Tickets JD 10.000. Available from Sweet Supermarket, Istiklal Library, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental All proceeds to be donated to the Orphanage of St. Vincent De Paul

**INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION ZARQA RUSEIFA WATER AND WASTEWATER PROJECT CONTRACT 65/88-4B**

The Government Tenders Directorate invites experienced Jordanian contractors who have been prequalified by the Ministry of Public Works as First Class Water and Sewerage Projects and contractors experienced and specialised in the field of Water and Sewerage Projects from USAID Geographic Code 941 who wish to be prequalified for the construction of Zarqa-Ruseifa Water and Wastewater Project Contract 65/88-4B partially financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The Contract consist of the supply and installation of Water and Sewerage networks of various diameters in Zarqa. The International Federation of Consulting Engineers prequalification form is obtainable from the Government Tenders Directorate at the Ministry of Public Works for a non-refundable fee of JD 25. The sealed envelope containing the fully completed form along with any other supporting documents are due at the office of the Director of the Government Tenders Directorate nor later than 12 noon Jordan local time on Sunday 6/6/1988. Director, The Government Tenders Directorate

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A bid bond for (5%) of total amount as a bank guarantee or endorsement cheque is to be submitted with the offer, otherwise it will be rejected.

Natural Resources Authority

**CONCORD** Cinema Tel: 677420  
1) Three Men And a Baby  
2) Action Jackson  
3) Who's That Girl  
Performances: 3:20, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

**RAINBOW** Cinema Tel: 625155  
1) Three Men And a Baby  
2) Action Jackson  
3) Who's That Girl  
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

**NIJOUN CINEMA** Cinema Tel: 675573  
Formerly Opera  
1) Three Men And a Baby  
2) Action Jackson  
3) Who's That Girl  
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:45, 10:45

**PLAZA** Cinema Tel: 677420  
1) Three Men And a Baby  
2) Action Jackson  
3) Who's That Girl  
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

delighted

## 1988 AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL FINAL STANDINGS

### T-BALL

	WON	LOST
1. Tom & Jerry	6	0
2. Mr. Chips	4	2
3. Danish Dairy	2	4
4. Wang	0	6

### COACH PITCH

	WON	LOST
1. NECC	5	0
2. Jordan Express	4	1
3. Nash/EBB	3	2
4. Al-Ahlyah	2	3
5. GEMT	1	4
6. Arab Bank	0	5

### KID PITCH

	WON	LOST
1. Samar	5	1
2. Ericsson	4	2
3. JWM	3	2
4. Marriott	3	2
5. DHL	1	4
6. Seiko	0	5

### SOFTBALL

	WON	LOST
1. Westinghouse	5	1
2. Perelli	4	3
3. Cairo Amman	3	4
4. Volvo	1	5



Tom and Jerry (first place) — T-Ball



Mr. Chips (second place) — T-Ball



NECC (first place) — Coach Pitch



Jordan Express (second place) — Coach Pitch



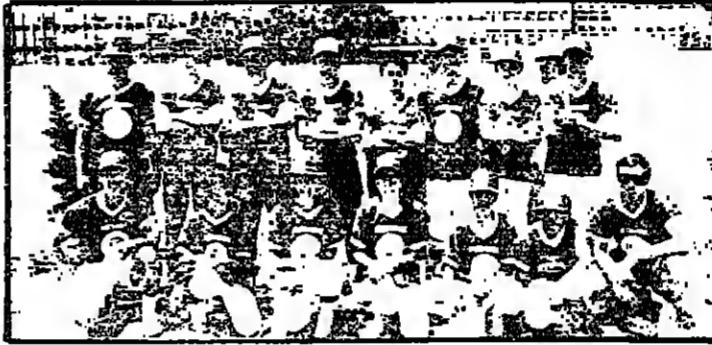
Westinghouse (first place) — Softball



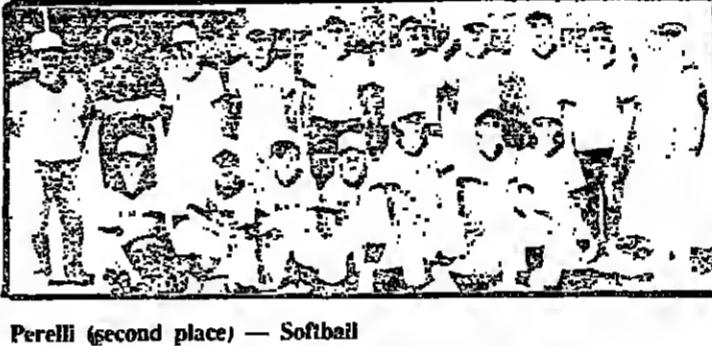
Samar (first place) — Kid Pitch



Ericsson (second place) — Kid Pitch



Marriott (first place) — Softball



DHL (second place) — Softball

## NBA ROUNDUP

### Mavericks win series

DALLAS (AP) — Rolando Blackman scored nine straight points in the fourth period Thursday night to lead the Dallas Mavericks into their first National Basketball Association (NBA) Western Conference Championship series with a 108-95 victory over the Denver Nuggets.

Dallas, which beat the Nuggets four games to two in their best-of-seven series, will play the winner of the Utah-Los Angeles Lakers series.

Blackman and Sam Perkins each had 23 points for the Mavericks, who had never before been past game 6 in the Western Conference semifinals.

Alex English led the crippled Nuggets with 34 points. Denver played its third straight game without Lafayette Lever and Jay Vincent, both out with injuries.

#### Jazz 108, Lakers 80

In Salt Lake City, Karl Malone scored 27 points and Bobby Hansen added 25 as the Utah Jazz defeated the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers 108-80 Thursday night and sent their NBA second-round playoff series into a decisive seventh game.

The two teams will return to the forum in Inglewood, California, for game 7 Saturday afternoon, where the Jazz already have won once this series.

The Jazz never trailed after Malone gave them an 8-7 lead with 8:17 left in the first quarter.

Magin Johnson scored only 10 points, all coming in the first half.

#### Detroit beat Chicago 102-95

In New York, Detroit advanced to the Eastern Conference final Wednesday night with a 102-95 NBA victory over Chicago, eliminating the Bulls. Meanwhile, Boston teetered on the edge of elimination with its 112-104 loss to Atlanta in its semifinal series.

The Pistons' Bill Laimbeer scored 13 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter to eliminate the Bulls in 4-1 series.

Detroit's defense, which held Chicago's Michael Jordan to 23 and 24 points in the third and fourth games of the series, held Jordan to 25 points — just nine in the second half — in game 5.

Isiah Thomas scored 25 points for Detroit, 15 in the first half, and Adrian Dantley scored 18 of his 22 points in the first half.

Detroit led 73-71 at the start of the final period.

But Sam Vincent and Charles Oakley scored four points each in a Chicago run that gave the Bulls their last lead, 80-77 with 9:03 remaining.

## NHL RESULTS

NEW YORK (R) — Results of best-of-seven Stanley Cup playoff games Wednesday:

### Stanley Cup Finals

Edmonton Oilers 2 Boston Bruins 1  
(Oilers lead series 1-0)

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF

© 1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

you hold:  
♦ A17 ♦ KQ92 ♦ K986 ♦ J6

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦ A72 ♦ K163 ♦ 76 ♦ 94

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦ KQ1053 ♦ 76 ♦ 98 ♦ Q9852

The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West

1 ♦ Dbl Pass 1 ♦ Dbl

What action do you take?

Q.7—Neither vulnerable, as South

### Expelled player kills referee

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — A soccer referee has died in a hospital from injuries suffered when a player he had ordered off the field threw a rock and hit him in the head, police said Thursday. Showman Tsuro was refereeing a division II league game between Cranborne Bullets and Arcturus at Arcturus Mine May 8 when he sent the player off the pitch for foul play. The expelled player picked up a rock and flung it at the referee, knocking him unconscious, police said. Tsuro died in a Harare hospital Tuesday. The match was cancelled when the referee was hit. The errant player may be charged with homicide, police sources said.

### Goalkeeper on target as Colombia beat Finland

HELSINKI (R) — Colombia continued their European soccer tour with a 3-1 victory over Finland Thursday in a friendly international marked by a second half penalty goal from goalkeeper Rene Higuita. The Colombians, who drew 0-0 against Scotland in the Rous Cup in Glasgow Tuesday, took the lead against the run of play through Arango in the 19th minute. Finland drew level after 38 when Jari Rantanen, who plays for English second division club Leicester City, headed a fine equaliser. But Colombia boosted their confidence before next week's encounter with England at Wembley with two goals in the second half through Higuita, from a 47th minute penalty.

### English soccer crowds increasing

LONDON (AP) — Soccer attendances in England rose last season for the second year running, according to figures released Thursday. A reduction in the number of first division teams from 22 to 21 meant that the figure for the top flight was slightly down, but the underlying trend was upwards, said Graham Kelly, secretary of the English Football League. The total number of fans who watched the matches in the four division of the league was 17,960,322, an increase of 3.2 per cent over the previous season. That represented an average 8,847 for each match. The average attendance for first division games was 19,252.

### Tardelli finishes contract with Swiss club

ST. GALLEN, Switzerland (R) — Midfielder Marco Tardelli, who helped Italy to win the 1982 World Cup, has had his contact with Swiss first division side St. Gallen terminated by mutual agreement with a year still to run. St. Gallen trainer Marcus Frei said Thursday that this evening's league game against Lucerne would be the Italian's last appearance for the club. Tardelli, 33, who joined St. Gallen last September from Internazionale Milan for around \$140,000, spent most of the season on the substitutes' bench due to injuries. He was capped 85 times by Italy. His goal in the 1982 World Cup final in Madrid helped defeat West Germany 3-1.

### Paralysed U.S. gymnast to return home

TOKYO (AP) — Julissa Gomez, a 15-year-old U.S. gymnast paralysed in an accident earlier this month, will be flown back to the United States Saturday, a spokesman for the Japan Gymnastics Association said. Gomez, of Blue Springs, Missouri, will be flown back to the United States on a U.S. military plane scheduled to depart from Yokota Air Base Saturday afternoon. The plane will make stopovers in Honolulu and Sacramento, where Gomez will then be transferred to a flight for Houston. JGA spokesman Kyoji Itsukaichi said. He said two doctors from the United States arrived in Tokyo early Friday to make final preparations for the flight and consult with Japanese doctors who have been treating Julissa at the emergency centre of the Tokyo University Hospital. The girl's parents, Ramiro and Orlia, who arrived in Tokyo two days after the accident, will accompany Julissa on the flight home.

### Nepalese king dissolves sports council

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — King Birendra dissolved the National Sports Council following a government commission report saying the group had been responsible for failing to control a stadium stampede in March which claimed more than 70 lives, a statement from the royal palace said Friday.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Peanuts



### Mutt 'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Today I drank 42 cups of coffee. I think I need a vacation."

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME by Henn Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HOVUC

RAWFE

METHEL

FRINEY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A TO

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble: LIMBO HAIRY ADJOIN DRIVE

Answer: If you can't face the music, you'll never get to do this—LEAD THE BAND

# S. Korean students attack U.S. embassy

SEOUL (Agencies) — Radical students buried six homemade bombs into the U.S. embassy and injured a police officer Friday as anti-government protesters fought riot police for a fourth day.

Students staged demonstrations and marches at colleges in Seoul and other cities to demand the overthrow of President Roh Tae-Woo and removal of U.S. troops. Many of the protests were peaceful, but some turned into battles with police in green combat fatigues and black-visored helmets.

"Down with the military dictatorship," the protesters shouted. "Drive out the Yankee imperialists."

Students hurling firebombs and rocks clashed with police in battles around at least three colleges in Seoul and one school in the southern city of Kwangju. Police fired volleys of tear-gas and formed walls of shields to stop protesters from marching into the streets.

Eight students were arrested in Suwon, south of Seoul, when they stormed an office of the governing Democratic Justice Party with firebombs and sticks. Riot police overpowered the attackers.

## 16 killed in new Sikh strike

AMRITSAR (R) — Militant Sikhs separatists struck again in the northern Indian state of Punjab Friday, killing at least 16 people.

The killings, which included a sleeping family and people standing at a bus stop, provided proof to the police belief that the surrender of 46 militants to end a 10-day siege of the sacred Golden Temple was just one battle in a long war.

The vast temple complex, the headquarters of the Sikh faith in the old walled city of Amritsar, still stands silent.

Until the siege was sparked by a militant gunman who wounded a senior policeman, the 400-year-old temple had responded with few interruptions to the sound of ritual chanting and readings from the Sikh holy book.

Police bomb squads were still probing the honeycombed complex for arms and ammunition while Red Cross workers searched for bodies.

At least 38 people, most of

Students carrying a South Korean flag and banners denouncing the government and the United States scaled over the walls of the U.S. embassy compound and others rushed the gate, police said. They buried six bombs at police guards and one officer was hurt when four of the devices exploded.

Students ran around the compound for several minutes, shouting slogans and scattering leaflets before riot police overpowered and arrested seven protesters. Eyewitnesses said some students got away.

"Drive out the U.S." the students shouted.

The state-run Korean Broadcast System said one student was injured by a policeman armed with an iron bar, but police said they could not confirm the report. The injured officer was hospitalized with blast wounds, they said.

U.S. embassy officials said the bombs did not cause any damage to the building and no U.S. per-

sonnel were hurt. Police said the bombs were crude chemical explosives packed in soft drink cans.

Radical groups called for a march in Seoul Saturday to denounce the Roh government. Opposition church groups also called for peaceful protests.

National police remained on nationwide alert. Riot police squads stood guard at key locations in Seoul or waited out of sight in side streets.

Protesters have denounced the United States in demonstrations this week, charging that Washington supports military dictatorship in South Korea. Radical leaders want the 40,000 U.S. troops based in South Korea expelled and an end to Seoul's alliance with Washington.

Protesters broke windows and buried firebombs Thursday at the Seoul office of the U.S. Information Service. The centre was seized by radicals in February when exploded several bombs that caused minor damage.

Democratic reforms made by the Roh government since it took power in February. The radicals contend the nation is not a Democracy and demand a nationwide revolt.

"Drive out the U.S." the students shouted.

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Roh is distrusted by many Koreans because of the role he played in the authoritarian government of former President Chun Doo-Hwan, who stepped down in February. Roh narrowly won presidential elections in December over divided opposition candidates.

Three days of major clashes hit Seoul and other cities this week as thousands of students and dissenters hurling firebombs and rocks battled riot police in the

streets. Police used volleys of tear-gas to break up the worst political violence since nationwide riots last summer.

The protests were called to mark the May 18 anniversary of a 1980 anti-government uprising in the southern city of Kwangju.

Some opposition groups contend Roh, a top general, played a leading role in the bloody suppression of the Kwangju uprising in which at least 191 people were killed. Radicals demand that Roh be punished for the incident.

## Black S. African leader visits Israel

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A black South African leader arrived in Israel Friday, saying he wanted to witness for himself the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Nathaniel Motlana, president of the Soweto Civic Association, came as a guest of the Israeli foreign ministry and labour federation and will meet Israelis and Palestinians.

He is scheduled to meet Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and President Chaim Herzog during his five-day visit.

Referring to the five-month Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, Motlana said on arrival:

"I've come to see the situation on the spot, to see whether the interpretation we make in South Africa of events now happening in this area are in fact valid."

"Black South Africans have

always identified with the Arabs as a 'Third World nation in the anti-colonial struggle with the Arabs," he added.

Motlana said he was unhappy about relations between Israel and the apartheid South African government, "particularly in matters of security and armaments," he said.

Israeli radio reported the South African embassy tried to block the visit by Motlana.

But on Friday, South African embassy press officer Tom Marlam said the embassy had not put pressure to prevent Motlana's visit and in fact had "no knowledge" of the trip.

Motlana fought for more than 25 years before he was granted a passport by South African officials in 1986. During that time, he was forced to turn down dozens of invitations to travel and speak abroad.

The Heritage Foundation is a privately funded think tank which generally espouses conservative views, often paralleling those of President Ronald Reagan's administration.

Aid tied to the bases is one of

three major financial packages being considered for the financially troubled Philippines, which

## 'Philippine bases need \$2.5 billion'

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. negotiators should agree to seek \$2.5 billion over five years to keep military bases in the Philippines on the condition that President Corazon Aquino move to allow the bases to stay beyond 1991, says a report Friday from a conservative think tank.

The report by Heritage Foundation policy analyst Richard D. Fisher also advocates the sale of modern jet fighters and naval warships to the Philippine military and a review of U.S. actions to keep Manila from expelling U.S. forces.

Fisher, in his analysis, calls the U.S. military facilities in the Philippines the "American Gibraltar in Southeast Asia," saying that if the United States abandons them, the Soviet Union will move in.

Fisher criticizes Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, who lived in U.S. exile during eight years of martial law under ex-President Ferdinand E. Marcos. The report describes Manglapus as a "staunch nationalist apparently obsessed with the U.S. colonial past."

The Heritage Foundation analyst also criticizes Aquino for not taking a stand on the bases. She has said only that she is keeping her options open until the current agreement is renegotiated, sometime before 1991.

"Her vagueness tends to strengthen the hand" of Manglapus, the report says.

A pro-bases view is being expressed by Philippine Defence Minister Fidel V. Ramos, who was in New York Friday after five days of meetings in Washington.

## Sri Lankan party official shot dead

COLOMBO (R) — Suspected Marxist gunmen shot dead a senior official of Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene's United National Party Friday, police said.

The group instead called last week for parliament's dissolution and listed 13 demands it said should be granted to show government sincerity.

The JVP has claimed that last year it killed about 260 people who either supported the pact with India or were UNP members or supporters.

The accord is at present enforced by 70,000 Indian soldiers in northern and eastern provinces.

Parliament Thursday extended for a further month a five-year-old state of emergency on the island to contain violence by the JVP and Tamil rebels.

Indian Defence Minister K.C. Pant is due to arrive later this month to discuss details of a phased withdrawal of Indian soldiers.

A cabinet minister said Thursday the government would still hold provincial council elections despite violence by the Marxist rebels and Tamil guerrillas.

"We will go ahead with elections in the north, east and south, despite peripheral violence," Lands Minister Gamini Disanayake told parliament.

## COLUMN

### Damage claim over Madonna cancellation

TOKYO (AP) — Tokyo district court has dismissed a suit filed by a 48-year-old man who demanded \$73 for mental damages he claimed he suffered when a concert by Madonna was cancelled due to bad weather, a court official said Friday. In the suit, filed against the concert tour sponsor, Tokyo Broadcasting System, office worker Kazumari Igarashi demanded that Madonna return for a make-up concert, according to the official who spoke on condition he not be identified.

Madonna's Tokyo debut performance, one of the five concerts scheduled, was cancelled June 20, 1987, because of rain and wind. The court ruled the suit "inappropriate" because a make-up concert is impossible without Madonna's cooperation, the official said.

### Hopes of pardon drive French drivers wild

PARIS (R) — Anarchy reigns on the streets of Paris ever since that re-elected French President Francois Mitterrand will stick to tradition and announce an amnesty for traffic offences.

Picturesque squares are clogged with illegally parked cars, traffic inches along the boulevards to a chorus of car horns and the sight of gesticulating Frenchmen arguing over their crashed vehicles is a cliché that like and it's even worse this time round because the amnesty is being delayed by the impending general elections.

This means a pardon, originally expected in May, might have to wait until June or July.

### Iranian gum may cause sterility

KUWAIT (AP) — A Kuwaiti newspaper claimed Wednesday that an Iran-made chewing gum, currently marketed in Gulf Arab markets, causes sterility in both men and women. The newspaper

Al Rai Al Aam, in a Riyadh-based dispatch, said that Saudi Arabian laboratory examinations proved that the chewing gum which carries the brand Sheek "makes a man or woman sterile if they use it." The paper said the gum was produced in a "neighboring non-Arab country," but it did not specifically mention Iran.

### James Brown arrested after chase

AIKEN, South Carolina (AP) — Soul music legend James Brown, charged last month with trying to kill his wife, was arrested again Wednesday after allegedly fleeing from officers responding to a call at his home. Later in the day, a authorities said Brown was charged with possession of the drug PCP following tests on a substance found in his car. Deputies were dispatched to Brown's home Wednesday afternoon after Brown's wife, Adrienne, went to a neighbour's house and said her husband was abusing her, said Aiken county sheriff Carroll Heath. When officers arrived, Brown sped away in his car but was stopped a mile and a half away, Heath said. Brown told officers he was late for an appointment and was speeding to make up time, the sheriff said.

### Stolen paintings worth \$50 million

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Three 19th-century paintings worth about 100 million guilders (\$50 million) among them a work by Vincent Van Gogh, were stolen from the municipal museum Friday, police said. The three paintings were discovered missing an hour after the museum's alarm sounded at 5 a.m. (0300 GMT) after a window was broken, according to police spokeswoman Helleen van der Weijden.

### Stick to your right

LONDON (R) — The stress of coping with a right-handed world could shorten the life expectancy of left-handed people, according to researchers who based their findings on U.S. baseball statistics. Writing in the science magazine *Nature*, published in London, Canadian psychologist Stanley Coren of the University of British Columbia said 1,472 right-handers listed in the U.S. baseball encyclopaedia died at the average age of 64.64 years, compared to 63.97 years for 236 southpaws. Until the age of 33, there was no difference in death rates for the two groups but then left-handers began to die earlier, he said.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Tibetans stage clemency rally

DHARAMSALA, India (AP) — About 400 people led by Tibetan monks marched Friday through the streets of Dharamsala to appeal to China to spare four Tibetans arrested in the death of a Chinese policeman. The policeman died during protests in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa in March. Dharamsala, in the northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, is the home of the Dalai Lama, the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, and many of his followers. Tibetan shops and businesses were closed Friday as part of the protest. Xinhua, the Chinese news agency, reported in April that four men were arrested April 14 in connection with the March 5 death of the policeman. As many as 24 people died in clashes that day in Lhasa. The Dalai Lama Thursday issued a statement saying there were reports that the four Tibetans would be executed and urging that they be spared. The men were identified as Lobsang Tenzin, a student of Tibet university at Lhasa, Tsering Dhondup, a monk, Gyaltzen Chophel, a businessman and Sonam Wangdu, a carpenter. Friday's demonstration was organised by the Dharamsala Tibetan Freedom Movement, a lobby group. It said appeals were sent to the prime ministers of India and China. China invaded Tibet in 1959. The Dalai Lama and about 100,000 of his followers fled to India that year after an abortive Tibetan uprising.

### Japanese hijackers deny Red Army link

TOKYO (AP) — A group of Japanese hijackers who commanded a jetliner to North Korea in 1970 say they have no links to the extremist Japanese Red Army, according to a message from the group sent to the Kyodo news service. The hijackers wish to return to Japan "to fight for Japan and the Japanese people," the group said Wednesday in a telex message and telephone conversation with Kyodo. The message, published Thursday, was in response to a list of questions sent to the hijackers, who have remained in North Korea since they forced a Japan Air Lines jet to fly to the Communist country 18 years ago. "Everyone knows we love our mother country and want to return to contribute to our mother country," the message said. "Our primary desire is to realize the dreams of the Japanese people so that they may live happy lives." In a telephone conversation the same evening, Takahiro Komatsu, the hijackers' second-in-command, told Kyodo the group had "absolutely no" connections to the Red Army or suspected Red Army extremists. It was the first time the group had disclaimed any links to the Red Army, Kyodo said. The long-dormant Red Army carried out a number of attacks in the

1970s, including a grenade and machine gun assault on Lod airport in Israel in 1972 that left 26 people dead. It also hijacked a jetliner over India in 1977. Police suspect a Red Army figure in a car bombing in Naples, Italy, last month that killed five people.

### Judge urged to start Iran-contra trial

WASHINGTON (R) — The Iran-contra prosecutor asked a federal judge Thursday to allow the case against fired White House aide Oliver North and three others to go to trial immediately. "This case should now go to trial," special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh said in arguing against more hearings on whether his investigation had been tainted by possible use of the defendants' congressional testimony last summer under grants of immunity. Walsh said there was no need for more pre-trial hearings because he built his case properly without using any of the testimony given to the Iran-contra committee that investigated President Reagan's worst foreign policy scandal. North and his one-time boss at the White House, former National Security Adviser John Poindexter, have been charged with conspiring to defraud the U.S. government by stealing profits from the secret arms sales to Iran to provide prohibited military aid to the Nicaraguan contras in 1985-86.

### 1st Soviet manned shuttle to carry 2

MOSCOW (R) — The first manned Soviet space shuttle flight with probably take two cosmonauts into orbit, Moscow Radio reported Thursday. It quoted Vladimir Shatalov, head of the cosmonaut training centre, as saying the flight would take place after space technicians finished testing all systems of the shuttle and its giant booster rocket, Energia. Shatalov told Western television reporters this week that two or three unmanned shuttle flights were expected before the new craft was launched with a crew on board. He said Igor Volk, one of the country's top test pilots, had been named to man the controls for the first flight. "The Soviet shuttle is similar to the American model but has a number of design peculiarities," the radio said. Western experts have said one difference was that the Soviet craft could land on jet power, but Shatalov denied this. He said the Soviet shuttle glides in like the American one. In preparation for the first shuttle launch, the craft has undergone 20 atmospheric flight tests, Shatalov added. Soviet space officials have declined to speculate about the date of the shuttle's maiden launch beyond saying they hoped it would take place this year.

## Reagan: Astrology affair will not damage summit

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said Thursday he considered Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev a real friend and denied revelations of astrological influence on the White House would mar the Moscow summit.

"I hope Mr. Gorbachev has some of the things that I have been saying about those charges," Reagan said, "because no decision was ever made by me on the basis of astrology."

The president, in an interview with foreign television journalists, had been asked whether he felt the disclosure in a new book by former Chief of Staff Donald Regan that his schedule and travel plans were dictated by an astrologer would damage his fourth summit meeting with Gorbachev. His wife Nancy had consulted the astrologer.

The president, in extensive remarks on the astrology flap earlier this week, also denied that May 29-June 2 summit dates had been set after consulting the stars.

In Thursday's interview, Reagan also appeared to defend his former press secretary, Larry Speakes, who in a book published last month disclosed he sometimes made up presidential quotes and said they were Reagan's own.

"I have to say he was not too far wrong with some of the things that were being said in our earlier summit meetings," Reagan said, apparently referring to one "quote" in which Speakes said the president had told Gorbachev at their first summit in Geneva in 1985 that their talks would help make the world a safer place.

The Thai minister spoke after returning earlier in the day from Moscow.